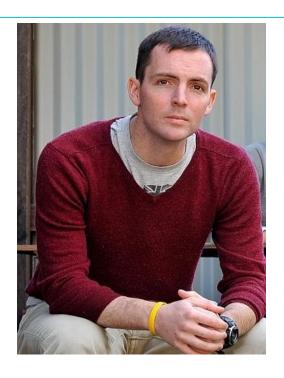




# In 2014 my son Dan and I began to fight for legal medicinal cannabis for Australia



I used to be proud of what we achieved but the truth is, if Dan were still alive today....he would still be a criminal buying his medicine on the black market.....

And I don't think that is good enough!



#### All we ever wanted was medicinal cannabis that was ...



# Legal



# Accessible



Affordable



#### AND .....



# An Industry that could provide it



#### What we ended up with was a whole set of problems ......



Not nearly enough patients can get it (around 1,000 since the law changed in 2016 while Germany has 16,000+ and *their* law changed a year later!)



The TGA wants to do the impossible & regulate cannabis "like all other medicines".



Hundreds of thousands being criminalised and left to depend on black market.

A dismal failure in meeting Australia's needs



#### Actually the whole thing is a moral and ethical disaster.



.....But at least we're in it together, right?



## Because putting it simply and bluntly .....







# NO PATIENT ACCESS MEANS NO INDUSTRY

ACCESS DENIED

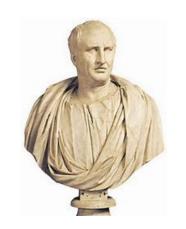


Salus populi suprema lex esto, which

translates as

"Let the welfare of the people be the supreme law"

- Cicero (106-43BC).



So how can we initiate the change Australian patients need and what are the changes?



# Let's keep it simple...

Industry must now support advocates

(If it doesn't, Australia will get left behind in the cannabis race)

And working together we need to focus on just three things .....











## How do we set about getting it?

Lobbying



Information and other campaigns in traditional and digital media



Education (of doctors & other key groups)



Take the messaging outside of and beyond the cannabis 'bubble'



Build relationships with other organisations, again outside the 'bubble'.

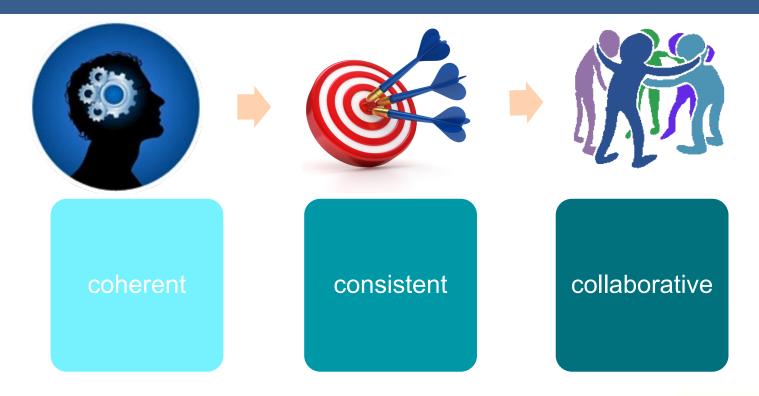


# And we all need to sing from the same song-sheet. There needs to be messaging from .....





## We must try to ensure that the messaging is ......





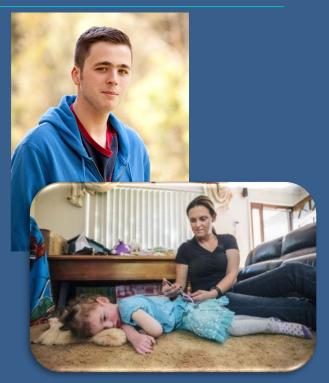
If it isn't we'll ALL look like idiots



### And things are really, really bad ......

- Lindsay and Abbey are medical refugees
- Forced overseas to source the only medicine that works
- Abbey's parents made it a permanent move

Lack of consistency and regulation between states also means thousands are stuck in a postcode lottery. That needs to be addressed too.





## So what are the key messages?

- All patients deserve the right to use or try cannabis, not just as a last resort
- GPs should be free to prescribe it without any bureaucratic interference at any level
- Cannabis is great for a whole range of conditions



#### Plus a few more. How about .....

- Stop punishing people for using the plant medicinally
- THC isn't the demon it's made out to be
- There IS enough evidence of the safety and efficacy of cannabis



And most of all – there needs to be some





#### Such messages we need to take to some key groups, including:



- Politicians
  - especially at election time



- Doctors
- who need information, education & encouragement to become better informed



- General public
- who need to know the truth about cannabis and the failures of the current system

# Importantly, we believe such information and messaging is best delivered by an organisation that is:

#### **INDEPENDENT**

- of any particular commercial or political imperative other than the interests of patients



#### **TRUSTWORTHY**

has no'hiddenagenda'



#### **NOT-FOR-PROFIT**

is not in it to make money





and of course....willing to take on the challenge!



You see for us, this is unfinished business!



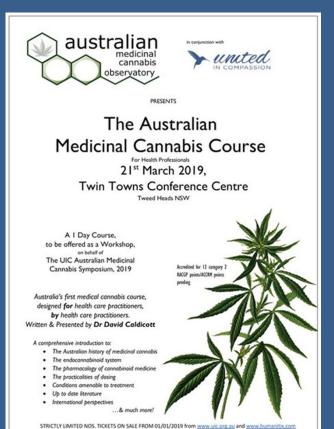
#### Despite the set backs UIC is still getting on with it:

- Producing its fourth Medicinal Cannabis Symposium for March 2019
- Working on a policy and strategy document to launch at the Symposium
- Working with organisations such as the NSW Nurses and Midwives Assn, the CWA and others so as to continue building momentum



#### As well as .....

- Planning a roll out of the RACGPaccredited Australian Medicinal Cannabis Training Course for Health Professionals
- Supporting patients with information and a sympathetic ear
- Forming strategic alliances where possible
- Speaking to senior politicians in Government and the opposition ahead of State and Federal elections





But we can't do all this on a wing and a prayer. If we're going to last the distance we're going to need some help!



Yours in fact, being specific about it!



This industry.....

your industry.....

depends on being able to serve patients



## Can they depend on you?



"Every step we take on medical cannabis will be built on the footsteps Dan left behind!"

Premier Mike Baird 2016





#### NO PATIENT ACCESS = NO CANNABIS INDUSTRY

CannaTech .....

..... we need to talk!



Please come and see us outside.

Thank you



